

## WASHINGTON'S STATE DINNERS.

They Were Very Solemn Affairs, According to an Ancient Annalist.

Washington's state dinners must have been exceedingly solemn affairs if they were all like the description of the following, which is found in the ancient diary of Senator Maclay, one of the first two representatives of the state of Pennsylvania in the United States senate:

"Thursday, Aug. 27, 1789—A little after 4 o'clock I called upon Mr. Bassett of Delaware state, and we went to the president's for dinner.

"The company were President and Mrs. Washington, Vice President and Mrs. Adams, Governor Mifflin and his wife, Mr. Jay and wife, Mr. Langdon and wife, Mr. Dalton and a lady (perhaps his wife), Bassett, myself, Lee Lewis and the president's two secretaries.

"The president and his wife sat opposite each other in the middle of the table; the two secretaries, one at each end. It was a great dinner and the best of the kind I ever was at. The room, however, was disagreeably warm.

"First were soup, fish, roasted and baked meats, gammon, fowl, etc. This was the dinner. The middle of the table was garnished in the usual tasty way, with small images, artificial flowers, etc. The dessert was fruit, apple pies, pudding, etc., then ice cream, jelly, etc., then watermelons, muskmelons, apples, peaches and nuts.

"It was the most solemn dinner I was ever at. Not a health drank, scarce a word said until the cloth was taken away. Then the president, filling a glass of wine, with great formality drank the health of every individual around the table. Everybody imitated him, changed glasses, and such a buzz of 'Health, sir,' 'Health, madame,' 'Thank you, sir,' and 'Thank you, madame,' I had never heard before.

"The ladies sat a good while, and the bottle passed about, but there was a dead silence almost. Mrs. Washington at last withdrew with the ladies. I expected the men would now begin, but the same silence remained. The president told of a New England clergyman who had lost his hat and wig in passing a river called the Bronx, and he smiled, and everybody else laughed.

"He now and then said a sentence or two on some common subject, and what he said was not amusing. Mr. Jay tried to make a laugh by mentioning the caricature of the Duchess of Devonshire assisting in carrying on Fox's election.

"The president kept a fork in his hand when the cloth was taken away. I thought for the purpose of picking nits. He ate none, but played with the fork, striking on the edge of the table. We did not sit long after the ladies retired. The president rose and went up stairs to drink coffee. The company followed. I took my hat and went home."—New York Herald.

## The Maxim Airship.

In a conversation with H. J. W. Dam, reported in McClure's Magazine, Hiram S. Maxim, inventor of the Maxim airship, said:

"The principle I have worked on, generally speaking, is that of the kite. That large cloth frame at the top of the model is the aeroplane, or main kite surface. The lesser aeroplane above the platform or car, the side aeroplanes or wings and the flat pointed rudders fore and aft are designed to furnish additional kite surface. It is necessary to make it, however, so that we can run it in a calm against the air, thus making our own wind, as it were, and for this purpose I have a railway track, and instead of cords to hold the kite against the wind I employ a pair of powerful screw propellers driven by a steam engine.

"In this manner I can drive the machine exactly as I please, can ascertain exactly how much the push of the screws is, and at the same time find out exactly how much the machine lifts at different speeds. The machine is, in fact, a big kite. Should I fly it in the air with a cord during a strong gale and then run my engines, I should be able to find out how fast they would have to run in order to take all the pull off the cord. As soon as the cord became slack, the machine would be flying with its own engine power."

## Steamship Shaft Indicators.

One of the most notable marine devices in the engine room of first class steamships is an arrangement by which the engineers are enabled to know whether that part of the shaft which extends outside the ship's hold is working smoothly or not. In all twin screw ships this runs through a sort of tunnel fastened to the ship with big brackets. Of course it is impossible to get at this shaft during a voyage. On the Paris, for instance, this is said to be 40 feet long. To meet the objection in question a little, fine tube is made to pass along the top of the shaft which runs inside the ship, just over the shaft, and water is constantly running through this tube in a fine stream. The engineer on watch frequently tries the temperature of this water with his hand, so that if the water were warm he would know at once that something was wrong with the working of the shaft and it would be slowed down, or this not remedying the trouble the engines on that side would be stopped.—New York Sun.

## Spokane's Elastic Social Function.

Spokane society dates on receptions. A reception is the most elastic, conventional social affair imaginable. Just a little stretching of the rules will make it a grand ball, a concert, a banquet or a prayer meeting. It can be adjusted to the crowd, the weather, the political situation or anything else. The only trouble with these receptions is that a guest never knows whether to take a prayer book or a copy of Hoyle with him when he starts to the meeting.—Spokane Chronicle.

## Her Judgment Was Good.

Because a Washington farmer could not marry a particular girl he killed her with his money and then blew his head off. Evidently he thought her excellence of judgment entitled to recognition.—San Francisco Examiner.

## WOMAN'S REALM.

It is said that Mrs. Cyrus W. Field might easily be mistaken at first glance for a schoolgirl. She is petite and vivacious.

Mme. Lebondy, widow of the great French sugar refiner, who left her a fortune of \$80,000,000, lives in a small house at St. Cloud and spends about \$1,000 a year.

Miss Fessenden, a progressive young woman of Massachusetts, has been actively engaged recently in advising New England girls not to marry "moderate drinkers."

Mrs. Frederick H. Benedict (nee Virginia Couderc) of New York, when at Homburg before her recent marriage was spoken of as the most beautiful American girl there.

Miss Pauline Whitney, daughter of ex-Secretary Whitney, though reputed to have more spending money than any other young woman in New York, dresses very plainly and wears no jewelry worth mentioning.

Miss Clara Barton, so famous as the head of the Red Cross society in this country, began her career almost by chance. At the outbreak of the civil war Miss Barton was a copying clerk in the patent office at Washington.

The two daughters of the late Banker E. P. Benjamin of New York, have surrendered their private fortunes to pay the debts of their father. They will be left penniless and will support themselves by music teaching and stenographic work.

Lizzie Francks, who years ago traveled with Barnum's circus for many seasons as "Titania, the Fairy Queen," and always drew crowds because of her diminutive stature, is now an inmate of a Philadelphia almshouse and has been since Aug. 28, 1877.

Miss Jean Ingelow, though in the sixties, pursues her amiable hobby of botanical study and flower cultivation and keeps up her benevolent custom of giving three times a week dinners to 12 poor persons freshly discharged from the hospitals of London.

Mrs. Marion Todd, whose latest literary work, "The Railway of Europe and America," has been recently published, is a New England woman by birth, but has passed most of her life in the west. In 1881 she was admitted to the bar in San Francisco and built up a practice there.

Ruth Brown Thompson, oldest daughter of Ossawatimie John Brown of Harper's Ferry fame, is now living on a ranch near Pasadena, Cal. She is a woman under medium height, perhaps 70 years of age or more, but she does not show her age and looks younger. Her skin is soft and white as a girl's, and her mild blue eyes are full of expression.

## ODDITIES ABOUT DEW.

By the allwise provision every plant and inch of ground which needs dampness is adapted for collecting dew.

Dew never falls in the general acceptance of that term, it being always formed upon the surface of the material or substance upon which it is found.

Dew does not form on the surface of vast bodies of water. On the contrary, the surfaces of ships which traverse the ocean have never been known to be dampened by it.

Dewdrops are always round or spheroidal in form, because every portion of each drop is equally balanced, no one part of the surface being farther from the center than another.

The reason that dew is rarely or never observed in the close, sheltered streets of cities is because the buildings are exposed to the radiation of each other, thus maintaining a temperature uniform with their air.

Mist never becomes dew, because the chill of the air is so rapid that vapor is condensed faster than it can be deposited, and, wrapping the earth in a sheet, as it were, prevents further radiation of heat from the earth.—Chicago Herald.

## AMONG THE WHEELMEN.

A. A. Zimmerman is one mile international bicycle champion.

Charles Murphy has been declared a professional by the L. A. W.

When a racing man is in fine shape in England now they say "he is terribly fit."

Three dead and dumb cyclists of Pittsburgh have been touring through Pennsylvania.

Two cyclists were fined respectively \$25 and \$50 for pedaling in forbidden streets in St. Petersburg.

The famous English tandem team, R. J. and A. F. Hiley, have ridden at the rate of nearly 25 miles an hour.

P. T. Powers of the National Cycling association declares that professional bicycle racing has thus far proved a success in America.

J. J. Farley, who joined the professional ranks at Troy, N. Y., races merely for the fun of the thing. He is worth from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

N. E. Kaufman, the champion trick bicycle rider, is out with a challenge to compete with any rider in America for \$500 or \$1,000 a side.

## WHITE CITY WAIFS.

Fifty-eight different varieties of wood form an attractive exhibit by California at the World's fair.

Hereafter patrons of the intramural road can make a round trip on the line for 10 cents. Formerly it was 10 cents each way.

Samuel W. Jackson has taken possession of the Lapland village, he having been appointed receiver by the court on application of Colonel Culpe.

Nannum Moghabghab, who has charge of the Turkish village at Chicago, is a Presbyterian minister and serves in that capacity when at home.

At the exhibit of British Guiana at the World's fair is to be found Adolphus Daniel, an Arraway Indian, born and reared in that country. His intelligence and his excellent English render him popular with visitors to the Agricultural building.

## HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Green tea will revive rusty black lace and render it as good as new.

The tone of the piano improves when the instrument is moved from the wall of the room.

A few lumps of beeswax wrapped each in a bit of old linen and put in the folds of a white satin gown will keep it from turning yellow.

A little kerosene oil rubbed briskly over the spots on dark clothing will brighten the garments and remove the stains almost like magic. The kerosene will evaporate quick and leave no stain.

Coffee stains should come out if treated before the cloth has been laundered. Rub the stain with a mixture made by dissolving the yolk of an egg in a little lukewarm water. Wash with clean warm water, and the stain will vanish with it.

## New Way to See It.

Three lanky fellows from Upthecreek went into the Agricultural building the other day through the principal entrance on the east side and stopped a moment in the doorway, as if bewildered by the magnitude of the display before them.

"Jerry," said the tallest, who seemed to be the leader of the party, recovering himself and speaking with businesslike briskness, "you go down that aisle on the right. Hank, you take the one on the left. I'll take the middle aisle, and we'll see the whole blamed thing."—Chicago Tribune.

## Losing His Balance.



—Truth.

## Disillusionment.

The orang-outang was doing everything but talk to the delight of the assembled hundreds.

It was a hot evening in the show.

The laughing hyena was rather perfunctory in his merriment, finding comparatively little to appeal to his sense of the ridiculous.

The box constrictor sighed deeply. His peculiar figure enabled him to do so very readily.

For the fifty-seventh time the infant phenomenon had been asked the number of her years.

"Nearly 5," she rejoined wearily.

"Well, you're big for your age."

It was the voice of the skeptic abroad in the land.

"If you don't believe me, you can ask my pa."

And the infant phenomenon gestured without a smile in the direction of the bearded lady, while all the listeners stood aghast.—Cassell's Journal.

## Something to Eat.

The tramp was getting desperate, for he hadn't had anything to eat for a day and nothing to drink for twice as long.

"Can't you give a hungry man something to eat?" he inquired of the girl who opened the kitchen door.

"No, I can't. We don't feed tramps here," she responded crossly.

"But I'm dreadfully hungry," he urged.

"I don't care if you are. You deserve to be, and if you don't get out I'll set the dog on you."

"Got a dog?" he asked anxiously.

"Yes," he gave.

"Is he big?"

"He's big as a calf."

The tramp began rolling up his sleeves.

"Set him on," he said eagerly; "I'll eat him," and the girl yielded and gave him his dinner.—Detroit Free Press.

## Proof.

The maid was a recent importation, but after a few weeks had been promoted to the position of waitress. When she had been installed in her new duties a few days, her mistress asked, "Bridget, did you attend to the parlor today?"

"Indeed I did," was the answer.

Who could doubt the light of truth which sparkled in her eyes? Her mistress believed her, but to make assurance doubly sure asked again, "You are positive?"

"O'man that," said Bridget in an injured tone, "and would ye be wantin' proof, O'man show ye the pieces of the brick-brack that O'bruk in dustin the room."—Harper's Magazine.

## Her Sensible Advice.

In a small village in the south of Scotland an elder in the parish church was one day reproving an old woman who was rather the worse for liquor by saying:

"Sarah, don't you know that you should fly from the tempter?"

Sarah (oh too well pleased)—"Flee yersel'."

Elder—(Oh, Sarah, I have flown).

Sarah—Aweel, I think ye'll be nane the waur o' another flutter.—Scottish American.

## A Sacrifice.

Mr. Sourly—I'm going to have my picture taken today.

Mr. Sourly's Wife—You will have to make a great sacrifice if you do.

Mr. Sourly—Why?

Mr. Sourly's Wife—You'll have to look pleasant for a moment or two.—New York Press.

## Love's Young Dream.

She—As I am to be a poor man's wife, don't you think I ought to get a cook-book?

He—Wait a minute, my pet, until we make sure that we will have anything to cook.—New York Weekly.

## Refused.

Father—Did Mr. Sappy propose to you last night?

Daughter—Yes.

Father—And is he to be my son-in-law?

Daughter—No, Son.—Detroit Tribune.

## Real Actors.

Mollie (5 years old)—Say Dinah, let's pretend I'm an awful looking tramp, and I'll demand a piece of pie, and you get frightened and give it to me.—Harper's Young People.

## Tilt For Tat.

Clerk at the Desk—This is a bad half dollar, sir.

Jones—That's all right. I had a bad dinner too.—Life.

## She Didn't Like Men.

She said that men were "horrid" with an energy emphatic.

And built upon a very dreadful plan.

And when one Jaxon upon her, with a gesture quite dramatic.

She said, "Well, if that isn't like a man!"

Their manners were so rough, she said, with voice almost hysterical.

They were so big and vulgar, she declared. They made her very ill, and thus, with energy unimpaired.

She rattled on, not one of them she spared.

Until there came a fellow with a pipe in his mouth.

That made her cheeks turn very, very red.

"You can have me," she said to him, with pout; that was attractive.

"But I wish you weren't a horrid man!" she said.

—Puck.

## If You Saw Your Own Wood

and saw enough of it, your digestive organs may perhaps be equal to the task of digesting even to the digestion of hard cooked food.

If however, like thousands of other people, you have learned that you must "draw the line atlard," this is to remind you that there is a clean, delicate and healthful vegetable substitute, called

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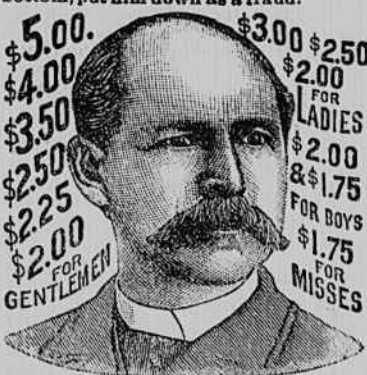
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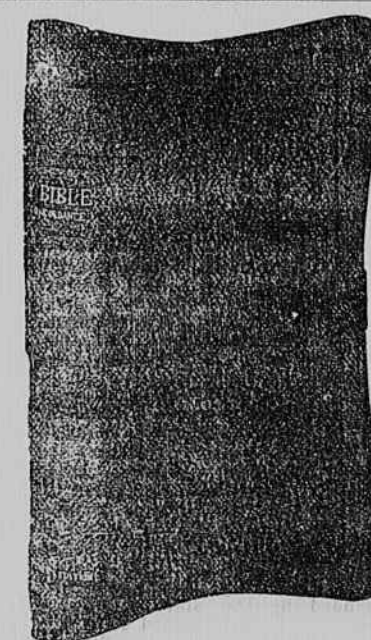
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